**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-40.  Canceled

41.    (Previously Presented)  A method for describing a user preferences

pertaining to consumption of multimedia content, comprising:

describing personal information to identify said user; and

describing user preference information of said identified user, wherein the

user preference information includes one or more individual user preference

information, each individual user preference information including a plurality of

preference items and corresponding preference values for each preference item, and a

updating type that indicates whether the user preference information is automatically

updated or not.

42.    (Previously Presented)  The method according to claim 41, wherein said

preference items have hierarchical relationships.

43.    (Previously Presented)  The method according to claim 42, wherein said

hierarchical relationships are hierarchical tree structures.


44.    (Previously Presented)  A method for describing a user preferences

pertaining to consumption of multimedia content, comprising:

describing personal information to identify said user; and

describing user preference information of said identified user, the user

preference information includes one or more individual user preference information,

each individual user preference information including a plurality of preference items and

corresponding preference values for each preference item,  wherein a plurality of

preference items within single individual user preference information have hierarchical

relationships.


45.    (Previously Presented)  The method according to claim 44, wherein said

hierarchical relationships are hierarchical tree structures.


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46.    (Previously Presented)  The method according to claim 45, wherein if a

preference item is located in more than one sub-tree of the user preference information,

the preference values for said preference item in the different sub-tree of the user

preference information are not identical values.


47.    (Previously Presented)  A method for describing a user preferences

pertaining to consumption of multimedia content, comprising:

        describing personal information to identify said user; and

        describing user preference information of said identified user, the user

preference information includes one or more individual user preference information,

each individual user preference information including a plurality of preference items and

corresponding preference values for each preference item, each individual user

preference information including a preference condition  under which said individual

user preference information uses.


48.    (Previously Presented)  The method according to claim 47, wherein each

preference item is used for searching or filtering multimedia contents.

49. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein said preference items have hierarchical relationships.

50. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 49, wherein said hierarchical relationships are hierarchical tree structures.